

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 NEW DE 02438 171822Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----172150 081723 /70

R 171312Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1355

S E C R E T NEW DELHI 2438

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MORG, PK, KE, IR, BA, MU, SA, MP
SUBJECT: I MIDDLE EAST FORCE- THE NEW FORMAT

REF: STATE 030235/1

1. THE GOI HAS RARELY IN OUR MEMORY TAKEN ISSUE WITH THE MIDEASTFOR AND INDEED UNTIL 1971 THERE WERE PERIODIC PORT CALLS BY SHIPS OF THAT FORCE. GOI'S EXPRESSED CONCERNS (AND EVEN THESE HAVE BEEN IN A LOW KEY) HAVE FOCUSED RATHER ON THE PERIODIC FORAYS OF CINCPAC TASK FORCES INTO THE INDIAN OCEAN AND ON THE PROSPECTIVE USE OF DIEGO GARCIA.
2. WE DO NOT BELIEVE A MODERATE INCREASED USE OF KARACHI BY COMIDEASTFOR WOULD SERIOUSLY DISTURB THE GOI PROVIDING THIS WAS NOT REFLECTED IN OTHER MILITARY QUID PRO QUOS FOR PAKISTAN WHICH REFLECTED A HEIGHTENING OF THE PAKISTAN-US ALLIANCE NEXUS. WE ARE UNAWARE OF ANY COMPLAINTS OR OVERTURES BY THE GOI TO COUNTRIES IN THE INDIAN OCEAN AREA WHICH IN THE PAST HAVE PROVIDED PORT VISITS TO COMIDEASTFOR SHIPS OVER SUCH VISITS.
3. SHOULD THERE BE A SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN THE SIZE OF THE MIDEASTFOR, AN ALTERATION IN THE CHARACTER OF THE SHIPS WHICH COMPOSE THAT FORCE, OR A CHANGE IN THE PUBLIC RATIONALE AND IMAGE OF THE FORCE, WE BELIEVE INDIA CONCERNS WOULD INCREASE. THUS

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THE PROJECTION OF A REGIONAL FORCE, OPERATING EQUALLY OUT OF EIGHT DIFFERENT COUNTRIES COULD TAKE ON THE AURA OF AN INDIAN OCEAN FLEET, OR THE PRECURSOR OF SUCH A FLEET. THIS WOULD BE A CONCEPT THE GOI MIGHT TAKE SERIOUS EXCEPTION TO.

4. SHOULD MIDEASTFOR SHIPS ALSO BEGIN ROUTINELY CALLING IN AT DIEGO GARCIA, WE WOULD EXPECT SUBSTANTIVE INDIAN OBJECTIONS.

SCHNEIDER

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NAVAL FORCES, PORT CALLS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 17-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977NEWDE02438
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770057-0720
Format: TEL
From: NEW DELHI
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770232/aaaabccm.tel
Line Count: 63
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 67a017c5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Previous Classification: SECRET
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Subject: I MIDDLE EAST FORCE- THE NEW FORMAT
TAGS: MORG, PK, KE, IR, BA, MU, SA, MP
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Type: TE
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